## ILLUSTRATING WHOLE NUMBER BY FRACTION PRODUCTS

A number line is a great way to lllustrate fractions as a product of a whole number and a fraction. Using a three step process, it's easy and fun!
EXAMPLE: $\frac{3}{7}$
STEP 1: Establish the whole number of the two factors:


Look to the fraction's | $\begin{array}{l}\text { numerator to find the } \\ \text { whole number factor. }\end{array}$ |
| :--- | We identify 3 (the numerator) as the whole number factor.

STEP 2: Establish the unit fraction of the two factors:

Look to the fraction's | $\begin{array}{l}\text { unit fraction factor. } \\ \text { denominator to find the }\end{array}$ |
| :--- |$; \quad 3 \times \frac{3}{7}=\frac{3}{7}$ We identify 7 (the denominator) as the unit fraction for individual partitions: represented as $\frac{1}{7}$ each.

Write the equivalent addition sentence, to reinforce understanding:

$$
\frac{1}{7}+\frac{1}{7}+\frac{1}{7}=\frac{3}{7}
$$

STEP 3: Illustrate the number sentence: $3 \times \frac{1}{7}=\frac{3}{7}$ on the number line, as demonstrated below:


There are 3 sections where each section is in $\frac{1}{7}$ unit fractions.
And the best part is: the total length is the fraction as a product!
$3 \times \frac{1}{7}=\frac{3}{7}$ and $\frac{1}{7}+\frac{1}{7}+\frac{1}{7}=\frac{3}{7}$

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TAKE A CLOSER LOOK! What would be the number sentences for $\frac{1}{7}$ and $\frac{2}{7}$ if each were a product of a whole number and a fraction?

